

Claims

What is claimed is:

- (1) A vehicle audio system, comprising:
- a radio controller; and
- a data table accessible by said radio controller, said data table capable of storing a unique set of default alignment settings for each of a plurality of vehicle models.
- (2) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, wherein each of said unique sets of default alignment settings comprise values associated with one or more of the following parameters: (i) blend; (ii) roll-off; (iii) radio frequency automatic gain control; (iv) stereo/mono; (v) time constant; and (vi) noise blanker.
- (3) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, wherein said data table is further capable of storing a unique set of equalization alignment settings corresponding to at least one equalization mode, said equalization alignment settings being intended to override said default alignment settings when the audio system is operating in said equalization mode.
- (4) The vehicle audio system of claim 3, wherein said equalization mode corresponds to operation of the audio system such that the primary output is talk.

(5) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, wherein said data table is further capable of storing a unique set of preference alignment settings corresponding to personal listening preferences of a vehicle operator, said preference alignment settings being intended to override said default alignment settings.

(6) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, wherein said radio controller causes audio signals to be produced based upon said default alignment settings.

(7) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, wherein said radio controller is capable of receiving a vehicle identification indicative of a vehicle model, and wherein said controller causes audio signals to be produced based upon said set of default alignment settings corresponding to said vehicle model.

(8) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, further comprising:
an internal vehicle body controller in communication with said radio controller over a data bus; and
wherein said radio controller is capable of receiving data indicative of a vehicle model from said internal vehicle body controller.

(9) The vehicle audio system of claim 8, wherein said radio controller causes audio signals to be produced based upon said set of default alignment settings corresponding to said vehicle model.

- (10) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, further comprising:
a data bus capable of being connected to an external vehicle diagnostic device;
and

wherein said radio controller is capable of receiving data indicative of a vehicle model from said external vehicle diagnostic device.

- (11) The vehicle audio system of claim 10, wherein said radio controller causes audio signals to be produced based upon said set of default alignment settings corresponding to said vehicle model.

- (12) The vehicle audio system of claim 1, further comprising:
a radio face plate in communication with said radio controller; and
wherein said radio controller is capable of receiving data indicative of a vehicle model from said radio face plate.

- (13) The vehicle audio system of claim 12, wherein said radio controller causes audio signals to be produced based upon said set of default alignment settings corresponding to said vehicle model.

- (14) An audio system for installation in a vehicle, comprising:
a radio controller;
a data table accessible by said radio controller, said data table capable of storing a unique set of default alignment settings for each of a plurality of vehicle models;

a means for identifying said vehicle model in which the audio system is installed; and

wherein said radio controller is adapted to cause audio signals to be produced based upon said unique set of default alignment settings corresponding to said vehicle model in which the audio system is installed.

(15) The audio system of claim 14, wherein said means for identifying said vehicle model comprises an external vehicle diagnostic device in communication with said radio controller.

(16) The audio system of claim 14, wherein said means for identifying said vehicle model comprises an internal vehicle body controller in communication with said radio controller.

(17) The audio system of claim 14, wherein said means for identifying said vehicle model comprises a radio face plate in communication with said radio controller.

(18) A method of programming a vehicle radio, comprising:
identifying a type of vehicle in which the radio is installed;
accessing at least one default alignment setting corresponding to said type of vehicle in which the radio is installed, said default alignment setting being stored in the radio; and
using said default alignment setting to affect an audible sound produced by the radio.

(19) The method of claim 18, wherein said step of accessing at least one default alignment setting comprises accessing a data table, said data table being capable of storing a unique set of default alignment settings for each of a plurality of vehicle models.

(20) The method of claim 18, wherein said step of identifying a type of vehicle in which the radio is installed comprises communicating vehicle identification information from an external vehicle diagnostic device to a radio controller.

(21) The method of claim 18, wherein said step of identifying a type of vehicle in which the radio is installed comprises communicating vehicle identification information from an internal vehicle body controller to a radio controller.

(22) The method of claim 18, wherein said step of identifying a type of vehicle in which the radio is installed comprises communicating vehicle identification information from a radio face plate to a radio controller.

(23) The method of claim 18, wherein said step of using said default alignment setting to affect an audible sound produced by the radio comprises adjusting at least one signal-processing technique applied to radio signals received by the radio.

(24) A method of customizing the audible output of a vehicle radio, comprising:
receiving information indicative of a listener-specific preference relating to the nature of radio signals received by the radio;
storing said listener-specific preferences in said radio; and

adjusting at least one signal-processing technique applied to said radio signals based upon said listener-specific preferences.

(25) The method of claim 24, wherein said signal-processing technique is roll-off.

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